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Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Yemen:* draft resolution

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000 and 64/203 of 21 December 2009 and all other previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1]

Recalling also that in resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006 the Assembly proclaimed 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity,

Reiterating that the Convention is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies,

Reaffirming that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Noting that one hundred and ninety-two States and one regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention and that one hundred and fifty-nine States and one regional economic integration organization are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[2]

Recognizing that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is important for sustainable development, poverty eradication and improving

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

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well-being, and is a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more balanced, efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention,

Recognizing the continuing need for greater progress in the implementation of obligations and commitments under the Convention by States parties in order to achieve its objectives, and, in this regard, emphasizing the need to comprehensively address the obstacles that impede the full implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and global levels,

Conscious of the intrinsic value of biological diversity and of the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components,

Recalling the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on biodiversity, held on 22 September 2010 as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, which highlighted the importance of the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention,

Recalling also the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its document outcome,[3]

Expressing deep appreciation to the Government of Japan for hosting the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its fifth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and welcoming the decision of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to endorse the offer of the Government of India to host the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties from 8 to 19 October 2012 and its sixth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety from 1 to 5 October 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[4]

2. *Recognizes* the important outcome of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its fifth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, which represents a significant contribution towards the comprehensive implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity as an essential condition for the protection of life on Earth, human well-being and sustainable development;

3. *Also recognizes* the adoption by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, as well as its potential role in contributing to the conservation

[3] See resolution 65/1.

[4] A/65/294, sect. III.

and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication, environmental sustainability and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of addressing in a balanced and comprehensive manner all the different values of biodiversity recognized in the Convention of Biological Diversity, taking into account their importance for sustainable development;

5. *Commends* the Global Environment Facility for its support for the early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of the updated and revised Strategic Plan for the Period 2011-2020, which is aimed at promoting the effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity through a strategic approach comprising a shared vision, a mission, strategic goals and targets to inspire broad-based action by all parties to the Convention and all stakeholders;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization in Support of the Achievement of the Three Objectives of the Convention, and looks forward to the adoption by the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties of financial targets and mechanisms in order to ensure the effectiveness of that strategy;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of mechanisms to promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention;

9. *Welcomes* the significant progress made in developing a multi-year plan of action on biodiversity for development based on the framework for South-South cooperation, and encourages parties to the Convention and Governments to further support its development and implementation;

10. *Takes notes* of the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change, and encourages parties to the Convention, other Governments, relevant organizations, processes and initiatives and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to take its findings into consideration, where appropriate, when carrying out work on biodiversity and climate change, including their relation to desertification and land degradation;

11. *Decides*, following the invitation of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to declare 2011-2020 the United Nations Decade of Biodiversity with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan on Biodiversity for the Period 2011-2020, and to designate the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity as the focal point for the coordination of the activities of the Decade, in consultation with Member States;

12. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which provides rules and procedures on liability and redress for damage to biodiversity resulting from living modified organisms;

13. *Notes* the revised administrative arrangements between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Environment Programme signed in Nagoya, Japan on 26 October 2010, and invites the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to extend to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity services and facilities similar to those provided to the two other Rio Conventions by the United Nations, in particular on issues related to the delegation of programme support costs;

14. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

15. *Invites* parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[2] to consider doing so;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".